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TRAINING-SCHOOL LIBRARIES *

By ANNA L. ALLINE

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THE question of the training-school libraries seemed at first thought to be one of the few subjects that could speak for itself, having its recognized place, being an important part of the equipment of every educational institution. All there would be to do to make a report would be to gather in the schedules of questions which would be so fully and comprehensively answered by a few hundred of our schools. This would not then be a paper for discussion, but as a statistical report would find a quiet lodging-place in the printed report of the transactions of this society.

The first glance through the papers sent in changes this aspect of it somewhat, as the majority of them present some problem which can only be solved by open discussion.

I wish to call your attention to a few statistics gathered from the reports under the same general classification used in all the reports of the Educational Committee, the basis being the number of beds. In each class there were one or more which could not be classified :

FIRST CLASS, TWENTY-FIVE TO FIFTY BEDS.

Forty-seven papers were returned. Twenty-two of these reported no libraries, but ten had professional periodicals. Fourteen have libraries. Eight returned blank papers. Three stated that they were about to establish the library. Of the fourteen having libraries, one had no general library and two had no reference library.

Number of volumes in the libraries of general literature: four have from one hundred to two hundred and fifty; nine have from ten to one hundred.

Number of volumes in reference library: one has ninety-two; one has fifty; four have twenty-five to fifty; five have three to twenty-five.

One simply answers "yes" to the question of how many, but it has a daily paper and that lets it in for a little credit.

Six of the fourteen have monthly magazines, those named most frequently being *Harper's*, *Outlook*, and *Ladies' Home Journal*; four have daily papers; nine have THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING; six have medical journals; five have other nursing journals.

* Read before the Superintendents' Society in May, 1905, at Washington, D. C.

Three have a special room for the library.

All but one have been established since 1900.

One was established by the superintendent and nurses; others were established by a physician or by physicians and by friends.

One is maintained by the institution, others by contributions.

Regulations most irregular, only one or two require books to be used in the library only.

SECOND CLASS, FIFTY TO ONE HUNDRED BEDS.

Eighty-three papers received. Thirty-three have no library, but eleven of these have professional journals. Thirty-four have libraries. Seven returned blank papers. Five are about to establish libraries. One asks for suggestions.

Number of volumes of general literature: thirteen have one hundred to three hundred; nine have fifty to one hundred; seven have six to fifty; five have none.

Number of volumes in reference library: two have one hundred; nine have fifty to one hundred; twelve have twenty-five to fifty; nine have eight to twenty-five; two have none.

Nineteen have periodicals of general nature, those mentioned most frequently being *Harper's* and *Century*; twenty-six have professional journals; twenty-five THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING, others mentioned *Training Nurse*, *Medical Journal*, and *Journal of Domestic Science*; two have daily papers.

Eight have a special room.

Six were established before 1900; fourteen were established since 1900. They were established by the staff and by donations.

One raised money by giving a fair; one is maintained by a fund, two by the hospital, two by nurses. The others seem to have no definite means.

Eight have regulations for controlling their use. All have the same general plan of allowing the books to be taken out and name of nurse registered.

THIRD CLASS, OVER ONE HUNDRED BEDS.

One hundred and fourteen papers received. Eighty-five have libraries. Eleven have no libraries but all have periodicals. Thirteen returned blank papers. Five are about to establish libraries.

Number of volumes of general literature: three have one thousand or over; seven have five hundred to one thousand; forty-one have one hundred to five hundred; fifteen have fifty to one hundred; three have under fifty; twelve have none.

Number of volumes in reference library: five have two hundred or over; seventeen have one hundred to two hundred; twenty-one have fifty to one hundred; twelve have twenty-five to fifty; nineteen have under twenty-five; seven have none.

Forty-seven have periodicals of general nature, those mentioned most frequently being *Harper's*, *Scribner's*, *Century*, *Munsey*, *Ladies' Home Journal*; *Charities* mentioned but once; *Studio* mentioned once; daily papers in eight, *Domestic Science*, three; professional journals, sixty-four; THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING, forty-eight (this represents the number of schools having subscriptions, but not the number of journals); others mentioned: *Pacific Coast Journal*, *British Journal of Nursing*, *Australian Journal of Nursing*, *Medical Journal*, *Training Nurse*.

Forty-five have a special room.

Sixteen were established before 1895; seventeen between 1895 and 1900; nineteen since 1900. Seven were established by nurses and seven are maintained by nurses (library fee, ten cents to one dollar); one has the interest on a fund of four thousand dollars.

Twenty-four have regulations. In one instance the matron of the home is librarian. For the most part the books are freely used throughout the building.

With a most generous calculation, there are not more than one hundred and thirty-two libraries. A little trimming down seems necessary. If we cut off those claiming to have not more than ten or twelve technical books, we still have a margin if we place the number at one hundred.

When we think of the constant struggle to raise the standard of our profession, and realize so keenly the great dependence on the education of the nurse, is not this the greatest handicap we have? With little or no library facilities, one of the corner-stones of the organizations is certainly lacking.

It must be emphatically stated, and I doubt not this audience would approve as a body, that the reference library is one of the essentials in providing equipment for a training-school. The unlimited number of the professional books published makes it all the more necessary that the standard books be placed within reach of the pupils. The maintenance of the library is quite as important as the establishment, due entirely to the rapid strides of science.

The text-book stage is rapidly passing out of use, and the study of subjects directly from reference-books has come in its place. As a result, we have a much broader field, a greater interest, and a greater activity, which develops the thinking nurse, and she is alive and alert for the problems daily before her.

I have laid the greatest stress on the reference library, but we practically have a natural division of the question into three parts:

1. Text-books for the individual pupil.
2. Reference books.
3. General literature.

As previously stated, the text-book is not the most necessary consideration of class instruction. We may place it as an adjunct only, as a general guide, and then, too, being always at hand it has its value. A few text-books to begin with and added to from time to time in passing through the grades, together with some of the more general and historical professional books, are a part of her stock in trade which every nurse should possess. The following list is suggested:

Life of Florence Nightingale. Tooley. (New York: Macmillan Co.)	\$1.58
Nursing Ethics. Hampton. (J. B. Savage Co., Cleveland, O.)	1.50
History of Nursing. Nutting	
Notes on Nursing. Nightingale. (D. Appleton & Co.)75
Practical Points in Nursing. Stoney. (Saunders, Philadelphia)	1.50
Medical Dictionary. Pocket Edition. American. Dorland. (Saunders, Philadelphia)	1.00
Medical Dictionary. Gould. (Blakiston Publishing Co.)	1.00
Anatomy and Physiology. Kimber. (Macmillan Co.)	2.25
Materia Medica used in the School	
THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING. (J. B. Lippincott Co.)	2.00

On completion of her course she should also have:

The Care of the Baby. Griffith. (Saunders, Philadelphia)	\$1.50
Theory and Practice of Infant Feeding. Chapin. (William Wood & Co.) . .	2.25
Obstetrical and Gynecological Nursing. Davis. (Saunders, Philadelphia) .	1.75
Personal Hygiene. Pyle. (Saunders, Philadelphia)	1.50

Should the nurse at any time take up a special line of work her list of books would of necessity be increased to meet that need.

The reference library should contain the entire list named above with the following in addition:

The American Illustrated Medical Dictionary. Dorland. (Saunders, Phila.)	\$4.50
Or The Illustrated Medical Dictionary, with index. Gould. (Blakiston) . .	5.00
Bacteriology. Newman. (Putnam & Sons)	1.50
Bacteria Yeasts and Molds in the Home. Conn. (Ginn & Co., Boston)93
Agricultural Bacteriology. Conn. (Ginn & Co., Boston)	1.25
Materia Medica. Dock. (Putnam & Sons)	1.35
Materia Medica. Stoney. (Saunders, Philadelphia)	1.25
Materia Medica. Groff. (Blakiston)	1.25
Materia Medica. Homœopathic. Dewey. (Boericke & Tafel)	1.75
Urine Analysis. Long. (Chemical Publishing Co., Easton, Pa.)	1.50
Anatomy. Gray	Cloth, \$5.50; sheep, 6.50

Human Body. Martin. (H. Holt & Co.)	\$2.29
Elementary Physiology. Huxley. (Macmillan)	1.26
Home Science Cook-Book. Lincoln Barnes. (Whitcomb & Barrows)	.90
Boston Cooking-School Book. Farmer. (Little, Brown & Co., Boston)	1.50
Diet and Relation to Age and Activity. Sir H. Thompson. (Warne)	.75
Practical Dietetics. W. Gilman Thompson. (D. Appleton & Co.)	5.00
Diet—Health and Disease. Julius Friedenwaldt and John Rührhah. (Saunders, Philadelphia)	4.00
Prnciples of Sanitary Science. Sedgwick. (Macmillan)	2.70
Care of the Home. Clark. (Macmillan)	1.35
Practical Hygiene. Parkes. (William Wood)	4.00
Ventilation and Heating. Billings	6.00
Home Sanitation. Sanitary Science Club. (Home Science Publishing Co., Boston)	.25
Nursing—Its Principles and Practice. Hampton. (Saunders, Phila.)	2.00
Text-Book of Nursing. Clara Weeks Shaw. (D. Appleton & Co.)	1.32
Familiar Forms of Nervous Diseases. M. Allen Starr. (William Wood)	2.50
Mental Medicine. Dr. E. Regis. (Blakiston)	2.00
Diseases of the Nervous System. Pearce. (Appleton)	3.00
Fat and Blood. S. Weir Mitchell. (J. B. Lippincott Co.)	1.50
Principles and Practice of Medicine. William Osler. (Appleton)	5.00
Vertebrate Embryology. Marshall. (Putnam)	5.10
Diseases of Infancy and Childhood. Emmet. (H. Holt & Co.)	6.00
Practical Hints on District Nursing. Amy Hughes. (Scientific Press, London)	.30
Notes for Visiting Nurse. Rosa Gilette Shawe. (Blakiston, Philadelphia)	1.00
Practice of Massage. A. S. Eccles. (William Wood)	2.50
The Care of the Teeth. S. A. Hopkins. (Appleton)	.75
Chemistry, Elementary Course. Remsen. (H. Holt & Co.)	1.04
Physiological Chemistry. Halliburton. (Longmans, Green & Co.)	1.36
Conversations on Chemistry. Ostwald. (John Wiley & Sons)	1.13
A Handbook on the Prevention of Tuberculosis. First Annual Report of the Committee on Prevention of Tuberculosis. (Charity Organization Society, New York)	1.00
Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Dr. S. A. Knopf	3.00
Tuberculosis, Diagnosis, Prognosis. Prophylaxis and Treatment. Twentieth Century Practice of Medicine. Vols. XX. and XXI.	
Transactions of the Medical Convention of Chicago. J. H. Billings, H. M. Hurd. (Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore)	5.00
Transactions of the Third International Congress of Nurses (to be obtained through the treasurers of the societies)	1.00
Transactions of the American Society (through the secretary of the Society of Superintendents, annually)	1.00
Transactions of the Associated Alumnae of the United States	
Friendly Visiting among the Poor. Richmond	.75
Principles of Relief. Devine. (Charity Organization Society, Twenty-second Street and Fourth Avenue, New York)	1.00
Practice of Charity. Devine. (Charity Organization Society, Twenty-second Street and Fourth Avenue, New York)	.60
Century Dictionary and Encyclopædia. (Century Co.)	65.00

<i>Progressive Medicine.</i> (Lea Brothers, Philadelphia and New York.) A quarterly digest of Advances, Discoveries, and Improvements in the Medical and Surgical Sciences. Per year.....	\$6.00
<i>Charities</i> , weekly. (Charity Organization Society.) Per year.....	2.00
<i>Good House-Keeping.</i> (Phelps Publishing Company, Springfield, Mass.) Per year	1.00

The library of general literature is of no small moment; it is the source of healthful recreation and culture. Not even a hint of its limitations will be attempted, but a few special recommendations only will be made.

A daily paper or papers, clean and wholesome, are quite necessary; also standard periodicals, two or more of a general nature, with two or more of a special character on religion, art, music, or nature study.

Some nurses in private practice need guidance in selecting literature to read to their patients, especially to children. This could in a measure be done by the proper selection for the school library. The books should be catalogued in both the general and reference libraries by the card system. Books of reference should be so placed and rules governing their use so made as to result in the greatest possible use to the entire student body.

Quite the ideal way would be to have a room for this section of the library by itself. Two rules should be unalterable—first, the books should never be taken from the room; second, no conversation whatsoever should be carried on at any time.

The books should be covered for protection and plainly marked with the title and the name of the author. A librarian might be appointed from the senior class to take an inventory at least monthly to learn if any books were missing or in need of repair. She should have special charge of the library, to know if the books are properly placed and general rules carried out. This would take but little of her time and could usually be attended to in connection with her own study hours.

If there is but one room for general literature and reference books, the two important rules should still be enforced for the benefit of those who study. The books of general nature should be governed less arbitrarily and could be taken from the room by the use of the ordinary card, thus leaving a record of time taken and the name of the person who took it. A fine should be paid for keeping a book out over time or injuring it in any way.

For the more free use of these books there should be a librarian having an office hour once or twice a week for the exchange and renewal of books. She might be appointed from the intermediate class with an assistant from the junior class to take her place in case of necessary absence.

Magazines and newspapers should never be taken from the library until they can be replaced by those of later date.

Again, if it is necessary to have the books in the social room for the nurses, there must be certain hours of the day when the regular rules in the interest of uninterrupted study should be recognized.

It is interesting to note the rapid increase in the establishment of libraries in the last five years—forty-seven of the estimated total of one hundred have been established since 1900. The questions as to how they were established and how they are maintained were not answered definitely enough to allow of any classifications. But some interesting features were noted, as the superintendent allowing her personal library for the use of the school. This does not seem a wise step to take for many reasons and should not be advised. When the people in connection with the school do not realize what the proper equipment should consist of, the various points of view might be presented, and it does seem that this is a particularly good field for the Ladies' Board. It will be necessary to have a committee on library work to guard against donations of large numbers of books of questionable value. Storage room is usually scarce and only desirable books should be placed on the shelves of the library.

Two schools are fortunate enough to have funds for maintenance. The nurses of Johns Hopkins are to be congratulated for having a fund of four thousand dollars with which to replenish their stock and keep it up to date.

LIBRARY DISCUSSION.

In the discussion the following points were brought out:

That the Boston City Hospital has a library memorial endowment of two thousand dollars, the interest being used each year for new books.

That the Rochester City Hospital has a similar endowment of two thousand five hundred dollars.

That when a beginning has been made and the need is apparent some one is sure to respond.

That the Johns Hopkins is to have four thousand dollars as a bequest, but that a library of eight thousand volumes has been accumulated in eight years, beginning by each pupil contributing one dollar, and all grateful patients who wished to express themselves being directed to the library.

That another superintendent, Mrs. Fournier, has in six years obtained a goodly number of books and magazines by appealing to the medical lecturers for books on special subjects, to book-stores and newspapers for magazines and daily papers, and in the same way diverting all small sums of money given for the benefit of the nurses to the library.

The Massachusetts General Hospital has quite a large library, a system of exchange being conducted by the nurses in taking out the books. Magazines and reference books are not taken from the reading-room, but general books may be taken to the nurses' rooms, the nurse entering her name and date on the register when she takes the book out and crossing it off when it is returned—in not longer than two weeks.

There was some discussion about losses, but the opinion prevailed that the losses were few and the nurses very careful.

THE LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NURSE *

By WALTER H. SAUNDERS

Of the St. Louis Bar

THE subject of my lecture to-night is "The Legal Responsibility of the Nurse." From an early age until death each person is charged with various responsibilities—some are moral and some are legal. The nature of these responsibilities depends very largely upon the place in society which the person fills and they vary in proportion to the various callings of life. Some have heavy responsibilities, some have light responsibilities; some fill a wide range of usefulness, and the efforts of others are restricted to a very narrow range. The king on his throne, and the president of a great republic, as well as the humblest ditch-digger, or the most astute lawyer, or the most skilful surgeon, are alike subject to the universal rule of responsibility. The difficult matter for many of us to appreciate is that responsibility is individual and ought to be so. So often we are prone to shirk obligations which have been properly placed upon our shoulders, and to shift to someone else the performance of a duty which essentially belongs to us. The object of all law is to fix responsibility. "And Nathan said unto David, 'Thou art the man.'"

The term "legal responsibility," in its general sense, means that responsibility which the law attaches to particular conduct. The rules of law are not arbitrary. They are not contained in a sealed book, which can be opened by none except those learned in the profession. They are the rules of common-sense, justice, and morality which reflect the settled opinion of each nation. Too many people are apt to think that the rules of legal responsibility are vague, indefinite, and unknown, and that a person of ordinary prudence and care may frequently transgress

* Lecture to the nurses of the Bethesda Training-School, St. Louis, Mo., May 20, 1905.